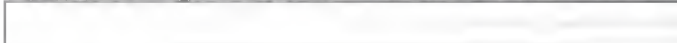


(b)(3): 10 USC 424

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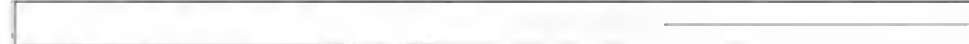
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(3) 50 USC 3024(i)



(b)(3): 10 USC 424



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CONTROLS

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SERIAL: (U)

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) FRANCE (FR); SOUTH AFRICA (SF).

SUBJ: FRANCE WANTS TO INCREASE MILITARY
COOPERATION AND ARMAMENTS CONTRACTS WITH SOUTH AFRICA (U)WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT
FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 960715.

SOURCE: (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, "LE FIGARO", PARIS, FRANCE,
960715 (U), IN FRENCH. RIGHT OF CENTER, INFLUENTIAL NEWSPAPER
WHICH USUALLY CONTAINS RELIABLE INFORMATION.SUMMARY: (U) FRANCE WILL ATTEMPT TO INCREASE MILITARY
COOPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA IN THE AREAS OF TRAINING,
EXCHANGES AND ARMAMENTS SALES.TEXT: 1. (U) FRANCE IS TRYING TO RECAPTURE THE PRIVILEGED
POSITION THEY HELD WITH SOUTH AFRICA IN THE MILITARY AND
ARMAMENTS COOPERATION DOMAIN PRIOR TO THE 1977 EMBARGO. MUCH
OFTHE SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY IS EQUIPPED WITH MATERIAL OF FRENCH
ORIGIN: MIRAGE AIRCRAFT, ALOUETTE HELICOPTERS, AND DAPHNE
SUBMARINES. SOUTH AFRICAN INTEREST IN FRENCH WEAPON SYSTEMS
STEMS FROM THE WAR IN ALGERIA.2. (U) WHEN THE UN EMBARGO WAS LIFTED, FRANCO-SOUTH AFRICAN
MILITARY COOPERATION STARTED AGAIN IN 940100. IN 951201, 40
SOUTH AFRICAN PARACHUTE TROOPS PARTICIPATED IN FRENCH EXERCISES
IN REUNION. THIS EXPERIENCE WAS REPEATED IN 960500. FOR THE
PAST THREE YEARS, FRANCE HAS HOSTED A SOUTH AFRICAN STUDENT
ABOARD, THE "JEANNE D'ARC". THE NUMBER OF FRENCH PORT STOPS IN
THE INDIAN OCEAN HAS INCREASED. AT THE BEGINNING OF 1996, THE
FRENCH ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF AND THE FRENCH CHIEF OF NAVAL
OPERATIONS VISITED SOUTH AFRICA. AFTER HAVING SENT THEIR
EQUIPMENT TO SOUTH AFRICA FOR MANY YEARS, THE FRENCH MILITARY
NOW INTENDS TO "PROPOSE THEIR EXPERIENCE". THE FRENCH MILITARY
ADAPTED SERVICE (SMA), WHICH EXISTS IN FRENCH OVERSEAS
DEPARTMENTS AND TERRITORIES, COULD APPLY TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN
SERVICE CORPS, THE ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRAINING AND
REHABILITATION OF 30,000 SOLDIERS.

(b)(3) 10 USC 424

3. (U) SOUTH AFRICAN ARMAMENTS INDUSTRIES WERE MAJOR PARTICIPANTS IN THE EUROSATORY GROUND ARMAMENTS SHOW HELD 960600 IN FRANCE. TWENTY-TWO COMPANIES DISPLAYED THEIR WARES. EUROPE ORDERED MORE THAN A BILLION FRENCH FRANCS WORTH OF SOUTH AFRICAN EQUIPMENT. FRANCE SIGNED A CONTRACT FOR THE "CHUBBY" DEMINING EQUIPMENT, CURRENTLY BEING TESTED BY THE U.S. ARMY.

4. (U) FRANCE STILL HOPES TO WIN A CONTRACT FOR THE SALE OF FOUR CORVETTES TO THE S. AFRICAN NAVY. THERE IS STIFF COMPETITION AMONG THE BRITS, DANES, SPANISH AND THE FRENCH.

5. (U) FRANCE, "THE GENDARME OF AFRICA", IS SEEKING TO INCREASE COOPERATION WITH THE MOST POWERFUL MILITARY FORCE ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENT, DUE TO ITS GEOSTRATEGIC IMPORTANCE.

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COMMENTS: 1.-(C)-[REDACTED] MR. NELSON ((MANDELA)), PRESIDENT OF SOUTH AFRICA, HAS COMPLETED A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL AND POPULAR VISIT TO PARIS, TO INCLUDE THE BASTILLE DAY PARADE ON 960714.

(b)(7)(D)(b)(3) 10 USC 424 Sec. 14(c)

(b)(3) 10 USC 424